

AMENDED CLAIM SET

1. (Currently amended) An antisense oligonucleotide composition for inhibiting vascular endothelial growth factor expression in a cell comprising:

~~an antisense oligonucleotide~~ directed against vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) wherein said antisense oligonucleotide inhibits proliferation of cultured Kaposi's Sarcoma cells at an IC₅₀ concentration of less than or equal to about 1.5 micromolar,

~~and wherein said oligonucleotide consists of a nucleic acid sequence which is perfectly complementary to a contiguous sequence of 19 to 33 nucleotides in the region of VEGF beginning at nucleotide 259 and ending at nucleotide 293.~~

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 28 and 29.

3. (Original) The composition of Claim 2 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is encapsulated in a liposome.

4. (Original) The composition of Claim 2 further comprising an antibody that specifically interacts with a vascular endothelial growth factor or a vascular endothelial growth factor receptor.

5. (Original) The composition of Claim 4 wherein said antibody is specific for Flt-1.

6. (Original) The composition of Claim 4 wherein said antibody is specific for Flk-1.

7. (Original) The composition of Claim 2 further comprising a second antisense oligonucleotide chosen from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 1-29.

8. (Original) The composition of Claim 7 wherein said first and second oligonucleotides are encapsulated in a liposome.

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9. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide inhibits proliferation of cultured ovarian carcinoma cells at an IC₅₀ concentration of less than or equal to about 2 micromolar.

10. (Original) The composition of Claim 9 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is chosen from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 28 and 29.

11. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide inhibits proliferation of cultured melanoma cells at an IC₅₀ concentration of less than or equal to about one micromolar.

12. (Original) The composition of Claim 11 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is chosen from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 12, 13, 14, and 17.

13. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said cells are epithelial cells.

14. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said cells are ovarian cancer cells, melanoma cells, Kaposi's sarcoma cells or pancreatic cancer cells.

15. (Original) The composition of Claim 14 wherein said cells are metastatic.

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